

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Official Action mailed **8 February 2007** the Examiner reviewed claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 13-16, 18, 19, 21, 22, 28-28, 31, and 33. The drawings were objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.83(a). Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 13-16, 18, 19, 21, 22, 25-28, 30 31, and 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claims 1-4, 9, 13-16, 21, and 25-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Abramson et al. (USPN 6,539,494, hereinafter “Abramson”) in view of Purpura (USPN 6,421,768, hereinafter “Purpura”), and further in view of Sandhu et al. (USPN 6,985,953 hereinafter “Sandhu”). Claims 6, 7, 10, 18, 19, 22, 30, 31, and 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Abramson, and Purpura, and further in view of Fielder et al. (USPN 6,105,133 hereinafter “Fielder”).

Objections to Drawings

Examiner objected to the drawing under 37 C.F.R. §1.83(a) as failing to show the feature “wherein the state information is retrieved from a third server which is different from the client.”

Applicant has amended claims 1, 13, and 25 to clarify that the state information is retrieved from database 124 as shown in FIG. 1, and as described on page 13, lines 17-24. Hence, Applicant submits that, in view of the amended claims, the drawings comply with 37 C.F.R. §1.83(a). No new matter was entered.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1, 13, and 25

Examiner rejected independent claims 1, 13, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §112, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Examiner avers that the specification does not disclose the claim limitation “wherein the state information is retrieved from a third server which is different from the client.” Examiner also avers that the specification does not disclose when the state information is created and stored on a third server.

Applicant has amended claims 1, 13, and 25 to clarify that the first server retrieves state information from a **database**. Applicant respectfully points out that the amended claims are supported by the specification because the specification discloses that:

1. **State information is stored on a database.** “Login authentication server 116 ... [publishes] the state information 200 in database 124” (see page 9, lines 12-15).
2. **State information is retrieved from a database.** “[T]he forwarding process illustrated in FIG. 6 applies to a database 124 that maintains communication session state information for active communication sessions held by related servers 111” (see page 13, lines 17-24).

Hence, Applicant submits that claims 1, 13, and 25 as currently amended, comply with the written description requirement under 35 U.S.C. §112.

Claims 7, 19, and 31

Examiner rejected dependent claims 7, 19, and 31 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

Applicant has canceled claims 7, 19, and 31 without prejudice.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Independent claims 1, 13, and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Abramson in view of Purpura. Claims 6, 18, and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Abramson, Purpura, Sandhu, and further in view of Fielder.

Applicant respectfully points out that the present invention is directed to share an active secure connection between servers (see page 3, line 25 through page 4 line 11). The connection's state information includes a running message digest (see page 10, line 20). The running message digest changes as messages are sent through the active secure connection (see page 10, line 22-23). Hence, the updated running message digest must be available to any server that wants to share the communication session (see page 10, line 23-25). Accordingly, the system **updates the running message digest at the database** as messages pass through the active secure connection (see page 12, lines 14-18).

Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 13, and 25 to clarify that the running message digest is retrieved from a database, wherein **“the second server updated the running message digest at the database as messages passed through the active secure communication session between the client and the second server, wherein the client, the second server, and the database are different from one another”** (see amended claim 1, lines 10-14). These amendments are supported by page 10, lines 20-25, page 12, lines 14-18, FIG. 1, FIG. 2, and FIG. 4.

Applicant submits that amended claims 1, 13, and 25 are patentable under § 103(a), because there is nothing within Abramson, Purpura, Sandhu, or Fielder, either separately or in concert, that discloses *the second server updating the running message digest at the database as messages pass through the active secure communication session between the client and the second server, wherein the client, the second server, and the database are different from one another.*

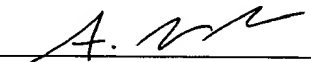
Applicant has canceled dependent claims 2, 3, 4, 6, 14, 15, 16, 18, 26, 27, 28, and 30 without prejudice. Applicant has amended dependent claims 10, 22, and 33 to correct antecedent basis.

Hence, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 13, and 25 as presently amended are in condition for allowance. Applicant also submits that claims 9-10, which depend from claim 1, claims 21-22, which depend from claim 13, and claim 33, which depends from claim 25, are for the same reasons in condition for allowance and for reasons of the unique combinations recited in such claims.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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